The Australian Songwriter

Issue 155, October 2021

First published 1979

The Magazine of The Australian Songwriters Association Inc.

Wests Ashfield

Wests Ashfield

APRA AMCOS

In This Edition:

- **On the Cover of The Australian Songwriter**: **Eric Read**: 2020 Winner of the Australia Category
- Chairman's Message
- Editor's Message
- Important Announcements
- Next ASA **Online National Wax Lyrical** 26 October 2021
- **Eric Read**: 2020 Winner of the Australia Category
- Wax Lyrical Roundup
- Sponsors Profiles
- **Helen Mottee**: 2020 Co-Winner of the Spiritual Category
- Members News and Information
- **Lucy Parle**: 2020 Winner of the Youth Category
- Latest Music Releases From ASA Members And Friends
- **Mark Cawley**'s Monthly Songwriting Blog
- The Load Out
- Official Sponsors of the Australian Songwriting Contest
- About Us:
    - Aims of the ASA
    - History of the Association
    - Contact Us
    - Patron
    - Life Members
    - Directors
    - Regional Co-Ordinators
    - Webmaster
    - 2020 APRA/ASA Songwriter of the Year
    - 2020 Rudy Brandsma Award Winner
    - 2019 PPCA Live Performance Award Winner
    - Australian Songwriters Hall of Fame (2004 to 2020)
    - Lifetime Achievement Award (2017)
    - 2020 Australian Songwriting Contest Category Winners
    - Songwriters of the Year and Rudy Brandsma Award (1983 to 2020)

Chairman's Message

Hey everybody,

On behalf of your Board, it gives me great pleasure to announce that once again we have had a record-breaking number of entries in the Australian Songwriting Contest. The growth of this competition, year to year, is phenomenal, and it highlights the depth of talent we have in this country.

Judging for the same is well and truly underway as we speak. It seems that lots of Songwriters have been using their 'Lockdown Time' effectively, turning out some spectacular tunes for all our appreciation. The standard just keeps getting higher and higher all the time. It reminds us that the ASA plays a big part in upcoming, emerging and established Songwriters gaining deserved recognition for their efforts each year.

As we begin to emerge from the shutdown imposed on our Songwriters and Musicians, be assured that the Board is following all aspects of the lockdown, and as fast as we can, will implement plans to get all Wax Lyricals up and running once more. It'll be great when we can get out and about, singing and playing to crowds again.

We are also monitoring the Live Event situation and believe that the ASA will be able to revert to our usual '2021 National Songwriters Awards' evening early next year. However, there are aspects of the '2020 Virtual Awards' which worked very well, and they may be incorporated in our next presentation. Watch this space!

Exciting times lay ahead people. One of our Major Sponsors Wests Ashfield has once again agreed to get behind the Australian Songwriters Association in 2022. So please make sure if you are a Member of our Organisation, that you also show your appreciation by becoming a Member of Wests Ashfield. Whatever State you live in, when you are in Sydney, you could utilise the Club for drinks, dinner and entertainment.

Also, don't forget, if you are a Songwriter, you should belong to both the ASA and APRA.

That said, this month's eNewsletter, edited as usual by Vice Chairman Alan Gilmour contains a wealth of reading, so please immerse yourself in it, to keep abreast of what is happening in the Songwriter's world.

Stay safe,

Denny Burgess
Chairman

Editor's Message

Hi Everyone,

While the ASA team is busily judging the 2021 Australian Songwriting Contest, we've managed to publish another edition of The Australian Songwriter magazine. We have interviews with our 2020 Australia Category winner, **Eric Read**, one of our 2020 Spiritual Category co-winners, **Helen Mottee**, and our Youth Category winner, **Lucy Parle**. And **Mark Cawley** joins us once again with his Songwriters Blog.

Stay safe and take care,

Alan Gilmour,
Editor and Vice Chairman

Important Announcements

Welcome To Country

The ASA acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities.

We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to Elders both past and present.

2021 Australian Songwriting Contest

Judging is now underway in the 2021 Australian Songwriting Contest. We'll keep everyone informed of progress.

2021 National Songwriting Awards

The ASA will continue to monitor public health announcements and will only hold a physical National Songwriting Awards if it becomes safe to do so. Due to the uncertainties surrounding lock downs, travel restrictions and venue closures, no firm date can be set at this stage.

As we did for 2020, the back-up plan will be for another Virtual Awards. We will keep members informed of the arrangements.

ASA Wax Lyricals

With ongoing lock down restrictions, many ASA Wax Lyricals around Australia have been placed on hold. Check with your local ASA Regional Co-Ordinator and watch for notices on social media.

Tuesday 26th October 2021
ASA Online Wax Lyrical

The second on-line National Wax Lyrical Zoom session
will be on Tuesday 26th October.
Time: 7-10pm ADST, 6-9pm AEST, 6:30-9:30pm ACST, 4-7pm AWST
Russell Neal, ASA Sydney Regional Coordinator will be your host.

All members and friends of the ASA, wherever you are located,
are welcome to attend - it's free!

Come and play the songs you have written during lockdown,
and listen to the work of other great songwriters!

The Zoom ID will be https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89460249319.

To let Russell know you are coming, email him at songsonstage@gmail.com

To improve your Zoom experience:

The Zoom software is **FREE** (Russell pays for the licence), please download the most recent version from here: https://zoom.us/download#client_4meeting
(it only takes a minute and it works better than older versions!):

Here is a link to some tips that can help you improve your sound in Zoom:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/107FCMiFE_CeWQNAFuNjdNACOf_qSU6HUZbxtEA7vATE/edit?usp=sharing

Brought to you by:

songs on line ~~stage~~

Eric Read, 2020 Winner Of The Australia Category

Eric Read was the 2020 winner of the Australia Category with his song The Generation.

Eric is an award-winning singer/ songwriter, ventriloquist, storyteller and comic who just loves entertaining and making people laugh. Here is Eric in his own words:

"I wrote the winning Australia Category song, The Generation, inspired by my parents' generation and the many stories told to me, of their interesting lives.

They were born in 1922, both with WW1 parents, and as children living through the Great Depression, then in 1940 heading off to war in the Pacific and surviving.

Mum was WAAC Sergeant and Dad Anti-Aircraft Corporal, but they saw some great things also.

Dad, from Sydney, saw Kingsford-Smith flying out of Mascot, he walked across the Harbour Bridge in 1932 with his parents. Mum was born in NZ and moved to Australia at nine years old so her parents could find work. This Generation taught us respect and being good people, to work hard and achieve. The song tells the story.

My parents were the most wonderful people. They had amazing admiration for each other. My Dad was very funny with a great sense of humour which I thankfully inherited from him. I never stopped listening and learning from him, so there were always many great song ideas that flowed from his being. Other songs also inspired by my father are The Pub At Grabben Gullen, a true story, and my wife Jacinta's song, Proud To Be An Anzac - The Ballad of Billy Torrance, was inspired by my mother's family. I met many folk of that generation and that inspired me to write an Australian song about them. God bless them as there are not many left now.

I ran Punch and Judy neighbourhood puppet shows as a child and loved listening to the laughter from the other kids (charging them a penny to get in, of course) and spent hours watching ventriloquists like Ron Blaskett and Gerry Gee and Chris Kerby with his Ostrich, but never had the opportunity to learn how they did it.

My music career started as a march band drummer around eleven years old and later I worked in several bands. Being left-handed, but playing right-handed drums, through the 60's and 70's in Victoria and also playing a bit of guitar, which further developed when I worked in Melbourne with a bluegrass band as a drummer, guitar player and cheeky front man throwing one-liners at just about everyone that came into the gig.

Then during the 80's, I worked a regular gig at a hotel/motel as a solo singer guitarist and comic, which gave me the urge to do more, as I loved the audience response.

Fast forward several years after practising ventriloquism with a very tardy rough looking doll, my wonderful wife Jacinta surprised me on a birthday with a new specially designed left-handed doll from a great figure maker in Phoenix, Arizona, and she told me to get serious now - if I'm gonna play with a doll, do it professionally!!

So, we started Read Entertainment as a business and created several one-hour shows incorporating humour, music from the 50s, 60s, 70s and beyond, country, colonial, comedy and classics and ventriloquism, costumes and typically a different show each month which has provided us with an income for the past several years.

We also created a DVD/USB show for seniors, retirement and aged care which was nominated in the top three Queensland Music Awards for innovation 2021 - these are sold all over Australia.

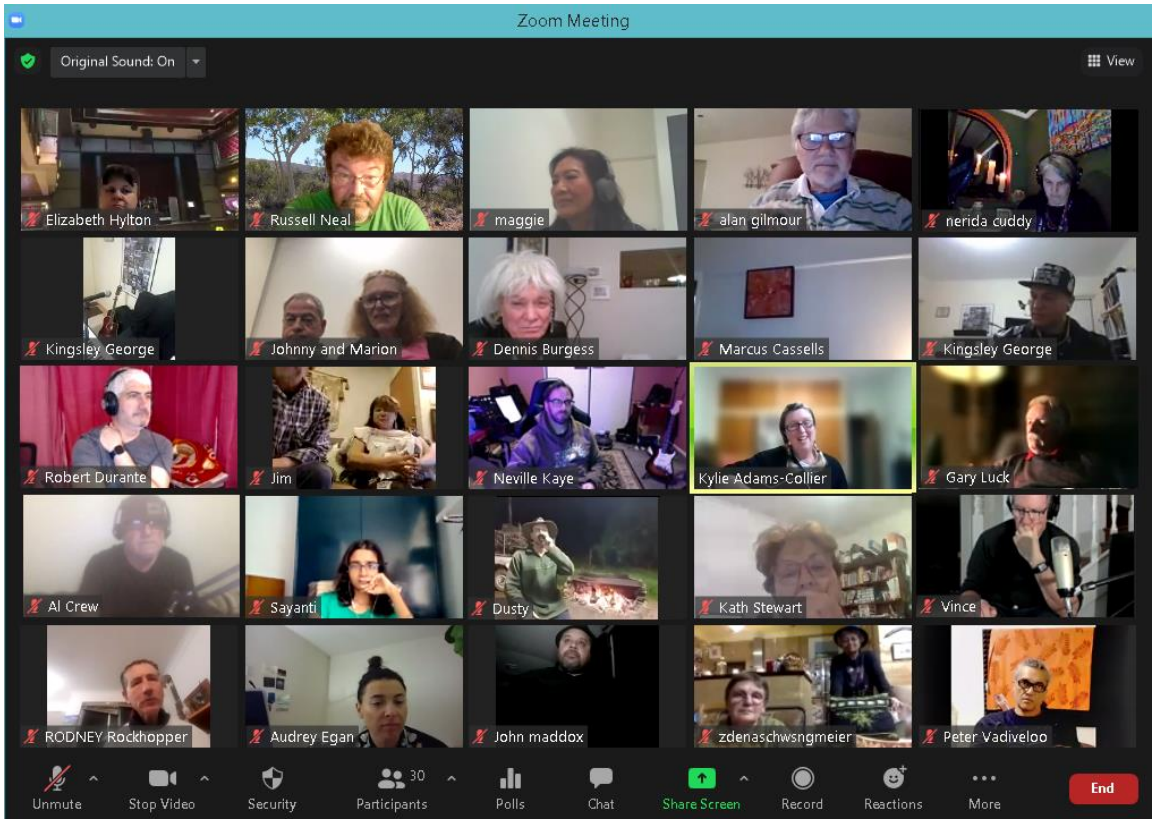
Jacinta, my very talented and supporting wife, has a background in journalism, editing and publishing. She is a creative wordsmith and writes wonderful songs about people, places and life, but with a real sentimental passion for honesty and integrity, crossing every T and dotting every I, so to speak. She will come up with an idea for a song, write it and hand it to me to rhyme, create the timbre, chords and melody. We also work closely with Leo Dalton, a dear, long-time friend of ours in Melbourne who is an accomplished producer and musician.

Jacinta and I are always creating and coming up with ideas, I love old corny comedy and getting a laugh or making something funny out of nothing, for example, songs like Put It On The Slate, Six O'clock Swill, It's a Dirty Job, Wouldn't Be Dead for Quids, Downsizing, to name a few, but I also love to write about places, The Pub at Grabben Gullen, Bribie Island Breeze, Granny's Grave, Roxburgh Chill etc and Jacinta writes more about people and life, The White Cat's Song, Proud to be an Anzac (The Ballad of Billy Torrance), Nan's Wise Words etc.

I always endeavour to produce crystal clear diction so the words can be heard and understood when recording. We will continue to write and record songs, work hard to get them heard and played. Jacinta is the sales, marketing and admin manager and I have the easy part of performing fun loving entertainment and putting smiles on faces. We will continue writing as long as people enjoy our songs and stories. And we are so appreciative of people like the ASA."

Wax Lyrical Roundup

ASA National Online Wax Lyrical, 29 September 2021



REPORT: Wednesday 29th September, ASA National Online Wax Lyrical

From Russell Neal, Sydney Regional Coordinator:

The first on-line Australian Songwriters Association Wax Lyrical Zoom session was on Wed 29 Sep. It was an amazing event, with about 45 people logging in, and 34 wonderful original songs performed by songwriters from all over Australia, and beyond.

ASA Board Chairman Denny Burgess opened the session with a few words, and christened it the inaugural "**National Wax Lyrical Night**".

We then heard beautiful performances from (in playing order):

John Wright, Audrey Egan, Neville Kaye, Vanessa Craven & Zdena, Robert Durante, Kylie Adams-Collier, Glenda Phipps, Marcus Cassells, Jim And Sue, Kingsley George, Nerida Cuddy, Johnny and Marion Shilo, John Maddox, Maggie Cudanin, Rodney Rockhopper, Kath Stewart, Sayanti, Peter Vadiveloo, Russell Vincent, Elizabeth Hylton, Allan Crew, Wayne Elkin, Dusty Mann.

We had time at the end for some songwriters to perform a second song, and there was a substantial listening audience throughout the session. Everyone was very impressed with the quality of the songs people have been writing during lockdown. The feeling on the night was very positive and supportive, and the feedback I received afterwards confirmed that.

Many thanks to ASA Board members Denny Burgess, Clare Burgess, Alan Gilmour and Gary Luck for attending, and for supporting me in this endeavour. Personally, this was the largest Zoom session I have ever hosted (and I have hosted more than 250), and I was very pleased that it went so smoothly. Many of the performers took the opportunity to have a 1-on-1 tech session with me beforehand, so the sound quality overall was very good, and there were very few technical delays.

The ASA Board and I are happy to make this a monthly event. The next one will be Tuesday 26th October (I have a live gig on Wednesdays now!). If you would like to perform, please contact me at songsonstage@gmail.com to book a timeslot. The Zoom ID will be https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89460249319.

For more information about SongsOnStage and SongsOnLine, see:
Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/SongsOnStage
Twitter - https://twitter.com/songsonstage
Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/songsonstage
#songsonstage
Meetup: https://www.meetup.com/songsonline-open-mic-meetup-group

ASA Canberra ACT, 2 October 2021, Online Wax Lyrical

ASA Northern Rivers NSW, 2 October 2021,

Sponsors Profiles:

1. **Major Sponsor: Wests Ashfield Leagues Club**

Thanks to major sponsor, the **Wests Ashfield Club**. The Club re-opened on 11 October 2021, after the recent lock-down.

A premier entertainment and dining venue, and home of Wests Tigers and Wests Magpies Rugby League teams, Wests Ashfield is an excellent place to visit in Sydney's inner west.

Not only supporting a host of local sporting and youth-related activities, the Club lifts itself above the rest by also being a "Patron of the Arts", as demonstrated by its incredible ongoing sponsorship of the ASA.

All music lovers are encouraged to return the favour by becoming members of Wests Ashfield and, at very least, indulging yourself by enjoying some of the culinary delights the Club has on offer.

The Club is located in Sydney's inner west, at 115 Liverpool Road Ashfield, and provides great dining restaurants, great coffee, and regular community activities for members and friends. Check out the website at www.westsashfield.com.au.

The ASA would like to thank the Wests Ashfield Club for hosting a function on 16 May for sponsors and friends of the ASA to view the online virtual 2020 National Songwriting Awards.

2. **Major Sponsor: APRA AMCOS**

APRA AMCOS is a major sponsor of the ASA, and provides generous support, including prize money of $3,000 annually to the APRA/ASA Songwriter of the Year, which last year, was **Tony King**.

The ASA would like to thank APRA AMCOS for its continuing support, to assist make ASA activities, such as the Australian Songwriting Contest and the National Songwriting Awards possible each year.

Music Rights and Royalties

Copyright is free and automatic. Copyright is there from the moment you write down or record the song you've created.

The Australian Copyright Act (1968) gives music copyright owners a number of exclusive rights. Nobody else can use the work without getting the owner's permission first, and if necessary, paying a royalty for this use.

APRA AMCOS represents two basic rights that apply to songs and compositions:

Performing Right: (APRA)

The Performing Right is exercised when a song or composition is performed in public. This includes:

- Played live at a gig, concert or festival
- Broadcast on TV or Radio
- Streamed on Digital Services
- Played in a Shop or Restaurant
- Viewed on Youtube
- Used in an Exercise Class

Reproduction Right: (AMCOS)

The Reproduction Right is exercised when a song or composition is copied in any form for commercial purposes. This includes:

- Third party commercial products e.g. CD, Vinyl, DVD, Cassette, Stream and Download
- Synchronising an existing song with a Film or TV Program
- Sheet Music

For more information on copyright, contact or preferrable join, APRA AMCOS.

3. Sydney Theatre Company

Sydney Theatre Company (STC) has been a major force in Australian drama since its establishment in 1978. The Company presents an annual season of diverse productions at its own venues at The Wharf and nearby Roslyn Packer Theatre at Walsh Bay, and as the resident theatre company of the Sydney Opera House. The current Artistic Director is Kip Williams, who was appointed in 2016.

STC offers audiences an eclectic program of Australian plays, interpretations of the classic repertoire and the best of new international writing. It seeks to produce theatre of the highest standard that consistently illuminates, entertains and challenges. It is committed to the engagement between the imagination of its artists and its audiences and the development of the theatrical art-form.

Go to www.sydneytheatre.com.au for more information.

4. Taronga Western Plains Zoo Dubbo

Taronga Western Plains Zoo, formerly known as (and still commonly referred to as) **Western Plains Zoo** and commonly known as Dubbo Zoo, is a large zoo near Dubbo, New South Wales.

The zoo is run by the Taronga Conservation Society (formerly Zoological Parks Board of New South Wales), along with Taronga Zoo Sydney. Western Plains Zoo is located on the Newell Highway in west Dubbo about 4 km from the city.

For further information, go https://taronga.org.au/dubbo-zoo.

5. The Code

Katcha Live Studio has been operating for ten years in the Sydney suburb of West Ryde, since 2009. It is run by husband and wife team, Cha Samaraweera and Kat Ferguson.

"We opened and dedicated to teach for one reason and one reason only: "To get you performing live. Whether it's in front of your family, friends or other audiences we want to see you perform in confidence. The bottom line is to be able to perform in front of many with confidence and entertainment skills. It does not matter how old or young you are, you need to be able to do this if you want to learn an instrument." For more information, go to www.katchamusic.com.

6. Vagabond Cruises

With over three decades experience, **Vagabond Cruises** is one of Sydney Harbour's longest established cruise companies!

"As a family run business, we deliver a wide range of convenient and all-inclusive packages including live entertainment lunch and dinner cruises, private functions for any personal or formal occasion such as weddings, receptions, corporate events, harbour transfers, school formals, university parties and formals, birthdays, hens and bucks parties and much, much more!"
Further information may be found on www.vagabond.com.au.

7. PaintballBookingOffice.Com

Love paintball? Then look no further than Paintball Booking Office.

Paintball Booking Office is an international organization for paint ballers, with 22 locations around Australia.

For further information, go to www.paintballbookingoffice.com.

8. James North Productions, Brisbane QLD

James North is an award-winning Australian musician, producer, recording and mix engineer who works with local, national and international acts in his boutique studio environment in Brisbane.

James also contributes to recordings when required as a session grade guitarist, bass player, piano/keyboard player and drummer. He is also a professional songwriter, arranger and composer and these skills are used daily in the production process.

For further information, visit www.jamesnorthproductions.com.au.

9. Magesongs

Magesongs School of Songwriting has mentored over a thousand songwriters since 2002 some of whom have achieved various successes and opportunities, staffing for record labels, APRA, signed to labels, music publishers, while others forming successful bands enjoying a solo performing career.

Many of Magesongs students have made the top 10 finalists at the ASA Awards, some have been first prizes winners, and three (3) of them have taken home the prestigious APRA/ASA Songwriter of the Year Award besides Jacques Gentil himself, their mentor.

Jacques has run workshops around major Australian cities mentoring thousands of songwriters as well as via his Magesongs live web-conferencing portal. His songwriting philosophy is based on applying the tools and techniques that's proven to have worked for successful songwriters over the past decades. With an eye and ear for detail, Jacques knows what can make or break a song. His own songwriting talent has given him the opportunity to collaborate with hit songwriters such as Joe Dolce, Grammy award winners Diane Warren and Joey Kibble (Take 6) amongst others.

His webinar classes of 20 sessions cover both the songwriting and business aspect of a songwriter's career, including homework while writing one song throughout the entire course under Jacques guidance, to finally be produced in studio. If your song has never brought you any success, why not also join the ranks of Magesongs achievers and make a difference.

New live webinar classes starting soon.

Book now: 0417 585 767 admin@magesongs.com

Website: www.magesongs.com

P.O. Box 239, Hampton Park, VIC, 3976, Australia

<u>10.</u> Maton Guitars

Maton has been a premier Australian musical instrument maker since 1946.

Maton manufactures acoustic guitars, electric guitars, ukuleles and accessories. All Maton instruments are hand crafted in Australia from sustainably sourced Australian timbers.

Maton is a sponsor of the ASA, and each year, it presents one of its beautiful acoustic guitars as the prize for the winner of the Rudy Brandsma Award For Songwriting Excellence.

For more information: www.maton.com.au.

<u>11.</u> Vocal Art Studios

Established in 2003, VAS is Australia's Award Singing & Music School and the only Australian Partners of The Institute of Contemporary Music Performance in Europe as well as the leading trainers and exam centre for Rockschool in Australia.

All Levels and Ages from Beginners to Professionals; Children, Teens and Adults.

For more information: www.vocalartstudios.com.

12. Griffith University Queensland Conservatorium

Queensland Conservatorium is one of Australia's leading music and performing arts schools, offering a wide variety of specialist degrees, from classical music, jazz, opera, popular music to musical theatre, acting and music education.

Study music and performing arts at Griffith, and you'll learn in an environment that will enable you to flourish. Our award-winning teachers are dedicated to producing polished music professionals of the highest calibre. Relevant, cutting-edge courses allow students to tailor their studies to suit their interests and aspirations.

Contact the University at www.griffith.edu.au.

13.Kix Country

If you're a country music fan, The **KIX Country** radio network is the one for you.

Broadcasting throughout Regional Australia, **KIX** gives you an exceptional music choice that you can listen to at work, at home, or heading down the highway. So, keep it country and turn on to **KIX**. For more information, go to www.kixcountry.com.au.

14. Hal Leonard Australia

Hal Leonard Australia is part of the Hal Leonard Corporation, which is known internationally as the world leader in the print music industry. Hal Leonard sells some of the best-known music from some of the best known Australian and International artists. www.halleonard.com.au.

15. QMusic

QMusic is Queensland's music industry development association and has been transforming music industry careers since 1995.

Best known internationally for our signature event, BIGSOUND, **QMusic** also offers an extensive and free professional development program throughout Queensland, and a grants program funded by Arts Queensland.

QMusic also stages the annual Queensland Music Awards to celebrate everything that makes Queensland music great. **QMusic** works closely with government at all levels, to ensure a thriving Australian music industry, and sustains partnerships with corporate and philanthropic partners who want to support the future of Australian music.

16. Christian Fox Accountants

Christian Fox Accountants undertake all types of accountancy work, including Income Tax Return preparation.

They are located at 8 Ingleburn Road Ingleburn NSW 2565 and can be contacted on (02) 9829 3111.

So, if you need assistance with accounting, please contact Christian Fox Accountants.

www.

17. Ashton

Ashton musical instruments are designed in Australia for Australian musicians.

Products include acoustic guitars, classical guitars, electric guitars, drums, ukuleles and accessories.

With over twenty years of experience, Ashton's aim is to design reliable, quality equipment at affordable prices, in conjunction with industry experts.

For further information go to the web site: www.ashtonmusic.com.

18. Black Pearl Studios

Black Pearl Studios offers its clients a truly unique recording experience in a state-of-the-art environment. The studio was designed with the help of world-class theoretical acousticians and environmental sound specialists and constructed in Melbourne by qualified Victorian builders. The project was completed in January 2012, and since has steadily carved a reputation as a studio of the highest calibre, with a gear list that would attract the envy of the famous Abbey Road.

The fully equipped turnkey recording studio boasts two large acoustically designed studio rooms, providing clients with an exceptional creative space and a chance to record with an unrivalled collection of top quality gear. The services available include live recording, mixing and production, with access to on-site services including the legendary Black Pearl mobile studio van.

Black Pearl Studios
9/21 Capella Crescent, Moorabbin, VIC, 3189
Contact: (03) 9939 7209; 0417 356 026
Website: www.blackpearlstudios.com.au

19. IndieCentral.com

Thanks to IndieCentral.com for co-hosting this year's Australian Songwriting Contest.

For more information on the services offered by IndieCentral.com, visit their website at www.indiecentral.com.

20. SongCentral.net.au

Thanks to SongCentral for co-hosting this year's Australian Songwriting Contest.

For more information on the services offered by SongCentral, visit their website at www.songcentral.net.au.

<u>21.</u> I Heart Songwriting Club

Do you suffer from writer's block? Do you struggle to find time to write songs in your busy schedule? Do want to be a better songwriter?

I Heart Songwriting Club is a totally online songwriting club for all songwriters. Yes, this club is about writing songs, it's about getting unstuck, it's about becoming creatively free, but it's even more than that. This is a global community of songwriters supporting each other to keep creating, to share music and to be totally creatively satisfied. And the result of all this is amazing songs that can change your life.

And thanks to the amazing support of the major global organisations we've partnered with, such as APRA AMCOS (AUS/NZ), IMRO (IRE), UBC (BR), Ivors Academy (UK), we get to work further and wider now supporting over 850 songwriters from over 22 countries to live their wildest creative dreams by writing well over 10,000 songs! Some of those songs have been nominated for ARIA Awards, have been played on major international radio stations, and on festival stages, but some of those songs are debut singles!

This is bigger than just writing great songs. This is about becoming a better songwriter.

Imagine how it would feel to be writing songs every week, sharing them with peers, getting feedback and being a part of something bigger.

Don't do this alone. Do this with us.

When you join I Heart Songwriting Club, you'll be part of an ongoing and online 10-week songwriting adventure designed to help you become a more resilient, productive and confident songwriter. Through our structured challenges and guidelines, and peer community cheering you on your journey, we support you to write songs fast (in 1 hour) and with a greater sense of creative freedom than you've probably had since you were 8 years old!

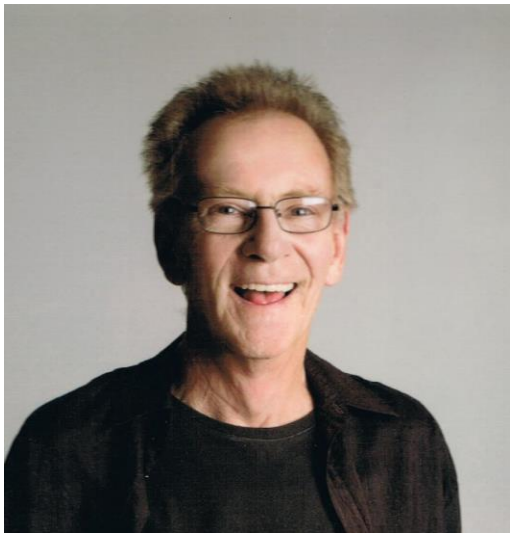
A big part of the success of our community is sharing your new creations (ie songs) within your privately assigned groups and giving feedback and encouragement to one another. And before you start to overthink this, we show you how you can give feedback effectively without the fear of having to be a critic. In fact, no one expects perfection in just 1 hour of songwriting, so you can leave your critic at the door.

We love to offer other bonuses to our members, such as trainings, shout outs, showcases, features and more. Members will be emailed about such awesomeness! And we encourage our members to contact us too! www.iheartsongwritingclub.com.

22. Bandzoogle

Bandzoogle is an all-in-one website and direct-to-fan platform for musicians. Powering over 50,000 websites, the platform offers powerful design options, commission-free music, merch, and ticket sales, built-in crowdfunding and fan subscriptions, mailing list management, analytics, and more. Plans start at just $8.29 USD per month, which includes a free custom domain name. Artists can try it free at www.bandzoogle.com

23. Russell Zimmer



When you need your dream song to be given its full potential to turn music industry heads ….

Call Russ Zimmer for help!

Whether your song started life on a train or a tractor and it's on your i-phone, or perhaps it just lives in your note pad for now (or even a cassette – *cringe*!), we can take your basic lyric and music idea and turn it into the production the world is waiting for.

Just send me what you have, and in the studio with our lifetime of experience we will turn it into something special for you to present to the music industry….

Call Russ Zimmer mob: 0419 311 650 www.justrussmusic.com.

<u>24.</u> LAWinSTYLE: Marlena Jankowska

Marlena Jankowska from LAWinSTYLE is an international lawyer with 15 years of experience specialising in intellectual property law and business, with a particular focus in the fashion and music branches.

She is an Author, Advocate and Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Design, Fashion and Advertisement Law at the University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland.

She advises on Intellectual Property and Business Law as well as Brand Management.

Her client base has encompassed the largest organisations, while she is equally at home working with smaller businesses and individual clients drawn from many branches including fledgling artists, musicians, authors and fashion designers.

As an ASA sponsor, Marlena is pleased to offer mentoring sessions on music copyright law to selected winners.

Contact: +48 608 206 869; mj@lawinstyle.net
Website: www.lawinstyle.net

Helen Mottee: 2020 Co-Winner Of The Spiritual Category

Helen Mottee was one of the co-winners of the 2020 Spiritual Category with a wonderful song called Observer.

We caught up with Helen for a chat.

ASA: What inspired you to write your winning song, Observer?

Helen: Observer is a composite of different people I met and had conversations with after I became a Christian**.**

This person spends their days and years talking about what they believe and analysing all the terrible, unjust things that are happening in the world but is never moved to get out of their theologically comfortable armchair and do what Jesus actually exhorted.

His followers to do – to go out and feed the hungry, visit the sick, take care of the orphaned and the widows and share the good news about Him. Observer keeps up with all the latest news headlines and mission updates that he's sent but none of these actually change his heart or his lifestyle. Even when he goes to the mall and "sees the latchkey kids with their skateboards and disillusion" he is not moved to stop for a few minutes and talk to them. For me as a relatively new Christian this was a complete disconnect and I didn't want to be like that.

ASA: Why do social justice and humanitarian issues appear so often in your songs?

Helen: I've been incredibly privileged to have lived and worked in different parts of the world and to have travelled and experienced diverse cultures and met people who have deeply inspired me and from whom I have learned what I'd call the Big lessons of life.

I fell in love with Africa when I visited Kenya in my early twenties and then many years later moved to Zimbabwe where I lived and taught in a small school for 13 months. This beautiful country and its people became home to me even as I saw and experienced firsthand the racial, social and economic inequality there. The first song I ever wrote was "They told me this is Africa" – it was my way of expressing some of what I had seen and heard and questioned.

In 2007 my family and I moved to Hong Kong and worked for 5 years with a humanitarian aid organisation – to use a well-worn cliché, this changed our lives and how we saw and responded to the world's massive challenges.

ASA: Can you change the world with a song? If so, what would you like to see?

Helen: I don't believe you can change the world with a song, but you can help change a person and challenge them to look at things differently and to examine their own heart as to what they believe and value.

Whether I write gospel songs which point listeners to Jesus or social justice songs which point them to huge global issues like child soldiers, refugees or the way women are treated in countries like Pakistan and Afghanistan, one of my goals is always to disrupt people's complacency and challenge them to look beyond their own comfortable lifestyle and worldview. I also see songs as a powerful way to speak for and tell the stories of people who cannot speak for themselves.

ASA: You were the ASA's Songwriter of the Year back in 2001. What has changed in the way that you view the world 20 years on?

Helen: My view of the world has not really changed. Tragically all the songs I have written which have social justice and humanitarian themes are as relevant or more so today than when I sat at the piano and scribbled the lyrics and chords on a scrap of paper all those years ago.

But I have also been blessed in the past 20 years to meet and learn from many extraordinary people and NGOs who have laid down their lives to make a difference somewhere in the world – whether it's shipping humanitarian aid to Northern Africa, looking after abandoned children in Mongolia, setting up drug rehab clinics in Central Asia or helping the ethnic minorities in Burma. The experiences I have had and the people whose stories I've listened to have changed me and I am a richer person for that.

ASA: Where to for now? Where would you like your journey to take you?

Helen: I'd like to start writing songs again after a long period of putting song writing 'on the back burner' and would love to record a gospel album. I recently wrote my first song in many years called 'For Afghanistan' after watching and reading about the Taliban's takeover and the withdrawal of the US military.

My husband and I visited Kabul In 2005 and met Christian believers and medical personnel who were risking their lives to help the local people so I knew the airport and what the roads were like and how even back in 2005 the Taliban were active outside of the city.

I plan to record the song – just a simple piano / vocal – and want to create a video to go with it and then see what happens. Once international travel restrictions lift, I would like to get back to Hong Kong to visit many of our friends and people we worked with and hopefully go even further afield.

ASA: Thanks, Helen.

Members News and Information

1. Support Act Crisis Relief Grants

The COVID-19 pandemic has created intense financial hardship for everyone working in the music and performing arts industries across all genres. Many of you were the first to lose your jobs and your income, and our sector could well be the last to recover.

COVID-19 CRISIS RELIEF GRANTS

With continued funding support from the Australian Government through the Office for the Arts, Support Act is offering cash grants of $2,000 ($2,700 to families with dependent children) to music and performing arts workers called COVID-19 Crisis Relief Grants (formerly known as MusicKeeper/CrewKeeper).

These grants are not a wage subsidy but a one-off payment to help pay the rent/mortgage, put food on the table, keep connected by paying power or phone bills, registering or servicing the car, paying medical expenses and so on.

NON-COVID CRISIS RELIEF GRANTS

We continue to provide support to those who are suffering financial hardship as a result of injury, ill-health or a mental health issue that is managed through a current Mental Health plan. Please note that Non-COVID Crisis Relief Grants are for music workers only.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a Crisis Relief Grant (COVID-19 or Non-COVID) you must:

- be an Australian citizen, permanent resident or have a valid working visa
- prove that you have been working professionally in the Australian music/performing arts industry for three years
- provide names and details of two professional referees
- have household expenses which are greater than your household income

There is no deadline to apply, however we strongly encourage those experiencing hardship to submit your application as soon as possible. Our social workers will then contact you to discuss your application.

2. **Dr Bill Gray, Lyricist**

ASA member, Bill Gray from the Central Coast of NSW, is a lyricist and is wanting a music composer to assist with his songs. If you are interested, please contact Bill on bill.gmc.music@gmail.com.

3. **Vale Alan Lancaster**

Photo: Alan Lancaster (left) presenting an award to Jacques Gentil at the 2016 National Songwriting Awards

Alan Lancaster (7/2/1949-26/9/2021) was a founding member, bassist, singer and songwriter for the legendary British band, **Status Quo**.

Alan moved to Australia in 1980s, and in 1987, he joined a new line-up of the Australian band The Party Boys and co-produced their self-titled album, achieving platinum sales. The single "He's Gonna Step on You Again" was number one in the Australian charts for two weeks. In 1988, he formed The Bombers, which signed to A&M Records in the US. It was paid the largest advance ever paid to an Australian-based band, but after the band had completed one album, A&M was sold to Phonogram.

Alan contracted Multiple Sclerosis, and on 26 September 2021, he died from the disease in Sydney, at the age of 72. Farewell Alan, and thanks for all the great music.

4. **Support Act: Headspace**

SUPPORTACT

The heart & hand of Australian music

"We're thrilled to announce our partnership with global meditation and mindfulness leader, Headspace, who are giving a donation and providing free access to their mental health and mindfulness tools to all Support Act supporters and service users for 3 months*.

As we all know, COVID-19 has brought the Australian music industry and overall creative scene to its knees. With the music industry being one of the first to shut down and undoubtedly one of the last to emerge from the pandemic, Headspace saw a need to support the creative and music industry specifically in Australia across the next 12 months as the industry slowly rebuilds and recovers.

"With more and more musicians leaving the creative industry out of economic necessity due to lack of support, we face losing a generation of burgeoning artists", says Louise Troen, VP of International Marketing & Communications at

Headspace.

“We see Support Act as a true leader and voice within this space and we’re excited to have our first Australian partnership with this incredible organisation. As a global brand, we see there is not only an increasing appetite for ways to manage anxious thoughts and build mental resilience in Australia but also a need to support those who are feeling incredibly anxious about their creative futures."

Clive Miller, CEO of Support Act, says, “The past 18 months have been the toughest yet for our industry, with requests for crisis relief and calls to the Wellbeing Helpline the highest they’ve ever been. We all know the importance of looking after our mental health at a time like this, so we’re delighted to be able to offer our music and performing arts communities access to the Headspace app and its wealth of fantastic resources.”

Try Headspace for 3 months using code SUPPORTACT

This is a special subscription for Support Act’s community valid until 31st December 2022 to learn how to meditate and be mindful for free*.

TRY NOW

1. Code - SUPPORTACT
2. Enter code on headspace.com/code
3. Register
4. Enter credit card information and finish the redemption process
5. Download the Headspace app
6. Login and enjoy premium content

*You will need to enter your payment information in order to redeem the code. Once the free time expires, you will be charged for a yearly subscription unless you decide to cancel prior to the expiration date.

Offer ends 31st December 2022. After your 90-day free trial, the subscription renews automatically at $69.99 USD for an annual subscription to Headspace. You can cancel at anytime. This offer is for new and existing free Headspace users only.

Enjoy!

The team at Support Act.

Lucy Parle: 2020 Winner of the Youth Category

Lucy Parle was the 2020 winner of the Youth Category with her song Me Without You.

Lucy is a High School student on the NSW Central Coast with a big future in front of her.

ASA: Would you tell us a bit about your winning song, Me Without You?

Lucy: Me Without You is one of my most poppy songs and I wrote it about getting over someone and telling them that I don't care anymore. It's pretty much a song about moving on and being happy!

ASA: You've been a regular winner and placegetter in The Australian Songwriting Contest in both the Youth and Adult categories in recent years. What is the secret to your success?

Lucy: Haha. I would say that what helps me write songs is my headspace and not forcing myself to write when I am drained or just don't feel like it. It's all about believing you can write a good song and taking your time writing it.

ASA: What music are you currently working on and what can we expect from you in the near future?

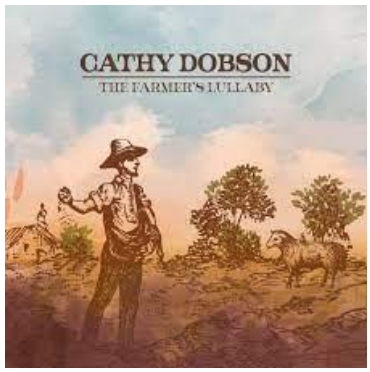
Lucy: At the moment, I am working on finalising my debut album which will be out early 2022. I'm so excited for these songs to be finished and out into the world because they represent my life up until this point, which I think is super cool. But between now and then there will be a few more singles which I'm also really excited about.

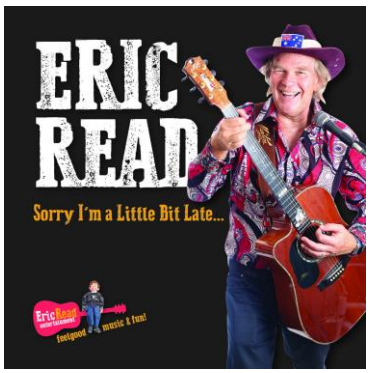
ASA: As a young artist, you pretty much have the world at your feet in terms of what you want to do. Where would you like your musical journey to take you?

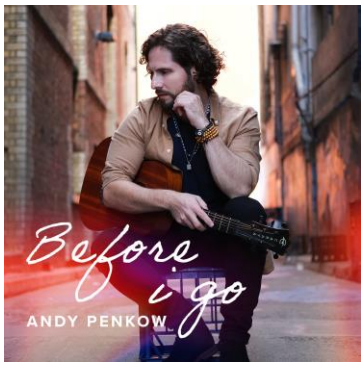
Lucy: I believe my music can help people and has the ability to connect people from all different walks of life. I would love for my musical journey to be a powerful one and one that helps as many souls as possible.

ASA: Thanks, Lucy.

Latest Music Releases From ASA Members And Friends

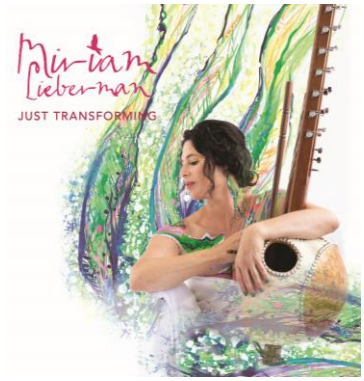






STAV. & Shirley Lynn

River of Change



Mark Cawley's Monthly Songwriting Blog

Does Songwriting have an expiration date?

I might just as well ask if songwriters have an expiration date. I coach songwriters all over the world, of all levels and all ages. I'm seeing a surge of writers coming to me for coaching who are coming back to a love of writing they may have put on the shelf for years. Maybe it was the need to focus on work or family. Whatever the reason most put their dream on hold. In some cases, Covid provided more time and more focus on being creative and that's bringing them out.

I love coaching these writers because most are realistic. They know they aren't about to get a record deal, probably not a major publishing deal either. They just want to do something they connect to and do it well. They are usually smart enough to know they want to learn from someone with experience and there are even those who feel they need to really dig in now because well…there might be less time in front of them than behind them at this juncture.

This is not to suggest that songwriting is for the young. Songwriting is not the music business. Songwriting is the business of being creative. You're never too old to learn, practice and …dream. There are some attainable goals for this age group. Sync (for example, getting songs in TV, movies and commercials) is something they can aspire to learn more about, even single song deals for something unique enough to interest a publisher. Is a publisher going to make a long term investment in a songwriter of a certain age? Doubtful but again, writing something undeniable and doing everything you can to get it heard can lead to some interesting opportunities.

I'll be honest, it's different for me in a way. I've made a career and life in music since I was a teenager but as the years moved along I've had to make some realistic changes not only to change with the business side but to acknowledge my own changing passions. In this way I'm not so different from my songwriting clients. I'm looking out for new, realistic attainable goals and new ways to be creative. Am I gonna go in search of an artist deal? Been there but it was in my youth. Seek out a major publishing deal? Nope. Been there too and not where my energy and passion lie at this stage. So I look for new challenges just like the older songwriters I'm working with. I guess the difference is they are returning to a first love while I'm looking for the next one.

In the meantime, I can teach, mentor and even write books and these are more recent passions. Wisdom never goes out of style and neither does the act and pure joy of writing a song. Whatever age you are, go for it. As long as you keep it fresh, songwriting has no expiration date, trust me.

Mark Cawley
Nashville, Tennessee

iDoCoach
inside pro songwriting

Mark Cawley is a hit songwriter who coaches other writers around the globe through his one-on-one, online service iDocoach.com. His songs have been on more than 16 million records with cuts ranging from Tina Turner, Joe Cocker to Wynonna Judd and Paul Carrack to The Spice Girls and many more.

His book, Song Journey, was released in April 2019 and went to #1 in 6 categories on Amazon. Mark is a judge for the UK Songwriting Contest, Nashville Rising Star, Belmont University's Commercial Music program, and West Coast Songwriter events.

He's also a contributing author to USA Songwriting, In Tune Magazine, and Songwriter Magazine, a sponsor for the Australian Songwriting Association, and a past mentor for The Songwriting Academy UK. Born and raised in Syracuse, New York, Mark now resides in Nashville, Tennessee.

The Load Out

If you are living in lock-down, is this where you would like to be locked down?

Official Sponsors of the Australian Songwriting Contest

The 41st Australian Songwriting Contest is proudly supported by the following organisations:

About Us:

The Australian Songwriters Association Inc. is a national, not-for-profit, member organization, dedicated to the support of songwriters and their art, by providing avenues for encouragement and education of developing Australian songwriters, and recognition and promotion of our accomplished members.

Aims of the Association:

- To celebrate the art of songwriting;
- To assist and encourage developing Australian songwriters;
- To provide information and general advice to members;
- To create performance opportunities for members;
- To aid the professional development of members;
- To enable members to meet and/or exchange ideas and information;
- To facilitate member transition into the established music industry;
- To facilitate delivery of member services at a National, State and Regional level;
- To salute our best songwriters at major industry events such as our National Songwriting Awards Night.

History of the ASA:

The Association was founded in Melbourne VIC in August 1979 by the late Tom Louch (1932-2009) and the late Rudy Brandsma (1944-1983), who saw the need for an organisation that would bring Australian songwriters together.

Today, the Association has a vibrant membership Australia-wide and enjoys an established and respected role within the music industry.

The ASA's membership is diverse and embraces and explores all genres of music.

Contact Us:

Mail:	2/2 Rawson Street Newtown NSW 2042 Australia
Phone/Fax:	(02) 9516 4960
Email:	asanationaloffice@asai.org.au
Website:	www.asai.org.au
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/asamusicians www.facebook.com/australiansongwritersassociation
Youtube:	www.youtube.com/austsongwriters

Patron: Glenn A Baker

Life Members: Tom Louch, Rudy Brandsma, Russell Zimmer, Dominic Crea, Marie Murphy, Colleen Zulian, Alex Bialocki, Rob Fairbairn, Brian Henderson Ward and Kieran Roberts.

Directors:

Denny Burgess	Chairman
Alan Gilmour	Vice Chairman, Public Officer, Financial Officer, Online Content Manager and Editor of The Australian Songwriter Magazine
Clare Burgess	Director, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary
Gary Luck	Director and Manager of Regional Co-Ordinators

Regional Co-Ordinators:

Ana Key	Canberra ACT	anak@asai.org.au
Angelo Pash	Adelaide SA	angelop@asai.org.au
Brian Ward	Melbourne VIC	brianw@asai.org.au
Brendan Smoother	Northern Rivers NSW	brendans@asai.org.au
Chris Fisher	Northern Rivers NSW	chrisf@asai.org.au
Hugh Brown	Brisbane QLD	hughb@asai.org.au
Jane Cornes-Maclean	Perth WA	janecm@asai.org.au
Jo Dunning	Blue Mountains NSW	jod@asai.org.au
Julia Marr	Cairns & Tablelands QLD	juliam@asai.org.au
Kerrie Garside	Sunshine Coast QLD	kerrieg@asai.org.au
Lisa Sutton	Dalby QLD	lisas@asai.org.au
Marcus Cassells	Ballarat/Goldfields VIC	marcusc@asai.org.au
Maria Harkins	Gippsland VIC	mariah@asai.org.au
Matt Sertori	Hobart TAS	matts@asai.org.au
Melinda J Wells	Wide Bay Burnett QLD	melindajw@asai.org.au
Melissa Black	South East QLD	melissab@asai.org.au
Michelle Parsons	Sunbury VIC	michellep@asai.org.au
Paul Vella	Central Coast NSW	paulv@asai.org.au
Russell Neale	Sydney NSW	russelln@asai.org.au
Sandy Bennett	Newcastle NSW	sandyb@asai.org.au
Wendy J Barnes	Yarra Valley VIC	wendyb@asai.org.au

Webmaster:

Dean Mackin, F1 Internet Services, (0409 240 660)

2020 APRA/ASA Australian Songwriter of the Year

Tony King (NSW)

2020 Rudy Brandsma Award Winner

Cathy Dobson (VIC)

2020 ASA Regional Co-Ordinator Of The Year:

Ana Key (Canberra ACT)

Australian Songwriters Hall Of Fame:

2020: Colin Hay (Men At Work)

2019: Andrew "Greedy" Smith & Martin "Plaza" Murphy (Mental As Anything)

2018: Iva Davies (Icehouse)

2017: Vikki Thorn, Donna Simpson & Josh Cunningham (The Waifs)

2016: Andrew Farris and Michael Hutchence (INXS)

2015: Johnny Young

2014: Kate Ceberano

2013: Garth Porter (Sherbet)

2012: Don Walker (Cold Chisel)

2011: Steve Kilbey (The Church)

2010: Richard Clapton

2009: Ross Wilson (Daddy Cool, Mondo Rock)

2008: Doc Neeson, John Brewster & Rick Brewster (The Angels)

2007: Brian Cadd

2006: Glenn Shorrock, Beeb Birtles & Graeham Goble (Little River Band)

2005: Russell Morris

2004: Harry Vanda, George Young & Stevie Wright (The Easybeats)

Lifetime Achievement Award:

2017: Christine Anu, for her work as a Songwriter in the Music Industry for First Nations Peoples

2020 Australian Songwriting Contest Category Winners:

Eric Read (QLD) Australia Category

Jemma Siles and Cyrus Villa (VIC) Ballad Category

Tony King (NSW) Comedy/Novelty Category

Niamh Watson and Mario Spate (NSW) Contemporary Pop/Dance Category

Katrina Burgoyne (USA) Country Category

Renee Jonas, Robert Pearce, Craig Cooke and Allan Caswell (NSW) Folk/Acoustic Category

John Robinson, Bukhchuluun Ganburged, Peter Kennard and Bertie McMahon (NSW) Instrumental/World Music Category

Tony King (NSW) Lyrics Category

Aniesha Hunt and James Feagai (QLD) Open Category

Michael McGee and Michael Kachani (USA) Rock/Indie Category

Stephen Kiely & Roxanne Kiely (NSW) Songs For Children Category

Susan Muranty and Renee Jonas (NSW) Spiritual Category

Lucy Parle (NSW) Youth Category

Australian Songwriters Of The Year & Rudy Brandsma Award Winners:

	Songwriters Of The Year	Rudy Brandsma Award Winners
2020	Tony King	Cathy Dobson
2019	Steve Montgomery	Tiffany Gow
2018	Anirban Banerjee	Lola Brinton
2017	Steve Montgomery	Samantha Mooney
2016	Donna Dyson & Damien Leith	Alex Tobin
2015	Karen Guymer	George Begbie
2014	Rick Hart	Robert McIntosh
2013	Jacques Gentil	Dani Karis
2012	Andrew Winton	Melia & Nerida Naughton
2011	Brian Chapman	Katie Hardyman
2010	Kate Rowe	Karen Guymer
2009	Tony King	Kate Lush
2008	Jason Campbell-Smith	Jo-Kelly Stephenson
2007	Simon Shapiro	Brenda-Lee Heathcote
2006	Emma Joleen	Daniel Arvidson
2005	Michael Maher	K'Crasher
2004	Trish Delaney-Brown	Callee Mann
2003	Contest Not Held	Contest Not Held
2002	Kyls Burtland	Sara Downs
2001	Helen Mottee	Keith Armitage
2000	Andrew Horabin	Tomino Speciale
1999	Alf Tuohy	Mike Kidd
1998	Kyls Burtland	Not Known
1997	Xanthe Littlemore	Michael Waugh
1996	Mark Crocker	Felicity Hunt
1995	Rob Pippan	Sharon Bothe
1994	Danny Hooper & Steve Cole	Nigel Foote
1993	Not Known	Billy Dettmer
1992	Not Known	John Cooney
1991	Not Known	Not Known
1990	Ian Paulin	Jane Robertson
1989	Steve Wade	Not Known
1988	Steve Wade	Steve Wade
1987	Not Known	Not Known
1986	Rob Stambulic	Stu Storm
1985	Ross Nicholson & John Coco	Steve Wade
1984	Not Known	Debbie Bignell & Tony Stark
1983	Chris Lamech & Debbie Bignell	Chris Lamech & Debbie Bignell
1982	Not Known	Commenced in 1983
1981	Not Known	Commenced in 1983
1980	Not Known	Commenced in 1983
1979	Commenced in 1980	Commenced in 1983

This publication is © 2021 by The Australian Songwriters Association Inc., ABN 12 140 838 710, and may not be re-used without permission. The views expressed in this magazine are the views of the writers and may not necessarily reflect the views of the ASA. The ASA acknowledges and thanks all sources from which information for this magazine has been obtained.